

17.0 SAN MARTIN

The unincorporated community of San Martin is approximately 5.5 square miles and is located between the Cities of Morgan Hill and Gilroy. The population of the community in 2000 was approximately 4,230. The San Martin Planning Area boundary encompasses the area between Maple Avenue on the north; Masten Avenue on the south; the East Foothills and West Foothills (excluding those areas within Morgan Hill). It excludes the area that lies west of Monterey Road and between the hill crest north and paralleling California Avenue and West Middle Avenue. The north and south planning boundaries are coterminous with the existing SOI of Morgan Hill and Gilroy.

San Martin is an unincorporated community governed by the County Board of Supervisors. San Martin receives nonurban levels of service from the County or from Countywide service districts such as the Vector Control District. There have been discussions among residents regarding a proposal to incorporate the Community. As of this time, no incorporation applications have been filed with LAFCO.

The community has a unique rural identity and character, and the County General Plan states that San Martin should be viewed as a distinct geographic entity. The County General Plan states that care should be taken to prevent premature commitment of land for uses that would restrict or preclude future land use options for the Community. Likewise, a General Plan policy states that in order to best preserve future options for the San Martin community and environs, San Martin shall remain a rural community, predominantly nonurban and residential in nature.

Prior to any significant increase in the types or densities of land use in the San Martin area, a master plan addressing both land use and infrastructure issues is required by the General Plan. The master utility/infrastructure component of this plan would include provision for fire protection, street improvements, a unified water distribution system, a wastewater management system, and area-wide drainage improvements. Methods of financing the master-planned improvements and designation of the government entities that would provide services should be included in the adopted plan.

Currently, sewer services are not provided within the Community. The General Plan regulates the provision of sewer services within the area. It states that connections to sewers will be subject to the following conditions:

1. No sewer connections will be allowed for private projects in the San Martin area until such time as an area-wide plan for infrastructure has been approved by the Board of Supervisors.
2. Public facilities and services operated by either a public or nonprofit agency may be granted a sewer connection without being required to develop a master utility/infrastructure plan if it can be found that such a connection would not induce significant growth within the community.

The County General Plan also states that new or significantly expanded industrial and commercial uses within San Martin may only be allowed if they can be served adequately by the infrastructure within the community and comply with the current regulations within County ordinances.

Because San Martin is neither an incorporated City nor a service provider, MSR and SOI determinations have not been included.